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DAREDEVIL



GUEST
STARRING
THE BLACK
PANTHER!

THE GOOD, THE BAD,
AND THE **BLIND!**



STAN LEE PRESENTS:

BURN!

WHATTA YOU THINK, WHEELER?

THINK THIS GUY NEEDS HIS LEGS?

HE'S BEEN DOIN' A LOT OF CRAWLING LATELY. HE FORGOT HOW TO STAND UP LIKE A MAN A LONG TIME AGO.

CRAWLIN' AND BEGGIN'.

SEE, WHEELER, THIS GUY OWES US FOR TOO MANY MONTHS.

I'D LIKE YOU TO SEE WHERE THAT GOT HIM.

NO, NO, C'MON, MAN, I'M EXPECTING A CHECK, I GOT IT FOR YOU, JUST LET ME GO HOME, C'MON MAN, I GOT SOME CASH, NO NO NO NO.

WAKANDA



ANN NOCENTI--WRITER
CHUCK BATTON--PENCILER
TONY DEZUNIGA--INKER
JOE ROSEN--LETTERER
SCHEELE/ROUSSOS--COLORISTS
RALPH MACCHIO--EDITOR
JIM SHOOTER--EDITOR IN CHIEF



TODAY, NEW YORK WOKE UP IN A FOUL MOOD.



EVERYONE CAN FEEL IT, SMELL IT, TASTE IT. NASTY WORDS ARE EXCHANGED, DOORS SLAMMED IN STRANGERS' FACES, A MAN LOSES HIS HAT TO THE WIND AND NO ONE BOTHERS TO HELP HIM RETRIEVE IT.

IT'S AS IF EVERYONE'S CAUGHT THE SAME FEVER, A ROTTEN MOOD THAT'S INFECTED THE WHOLE URBAN BLOODSTREAM.

NO ONE SENSES THE MOOD MORE THAN THE MAN WHO IMMERSSES HIMSELF IN THE THICK OF IT, DAY IN AND DAY OUT, THE RELENTLESS GUARDIAN OF HELL'S KITCHEN--

--DAREDEVIL!



A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT STOLE HIS SIGHT, BUT AT THE SAME TIME BLESSED HIM WITH A RADAR-VISION THAT'S MORE ACCURATE THAN EYES. IT ALSO GAVE HIM HEIGHTENED, RAZOR-SHARP SENSES.



HIS EARS ARE USED TO IGNORING CAR HORNS, THE CHATTER OF STREET FOLK, THE CLANK OF MACHINES. IT'S ALL UNIMPORTANT WHITE NOISE, LIKE THE HUM OF A REFRIGERATOR.

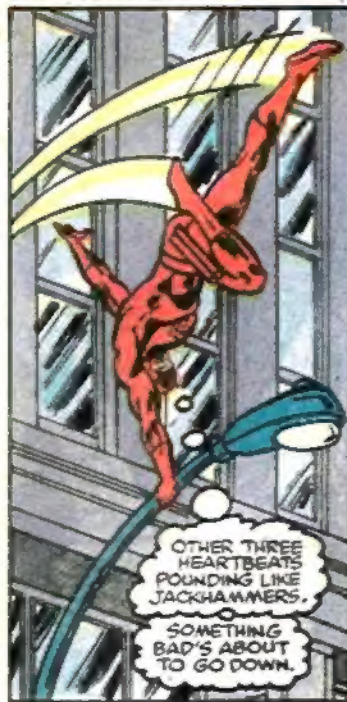


BUT LET SOMEONE SCREAM, OR CRY OUT IN PAIN, OR NEED, OR FEAR--EVEN IF IT'S A MILE AWAY--AND THE SOUND CRASHES IN HIS SKULL AS IF HE WERE RIGHT THERE.



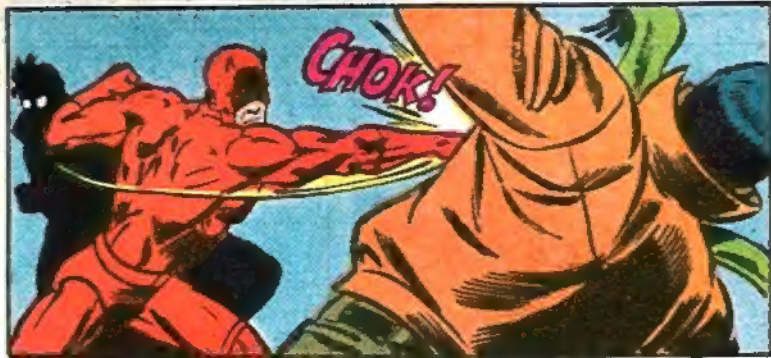
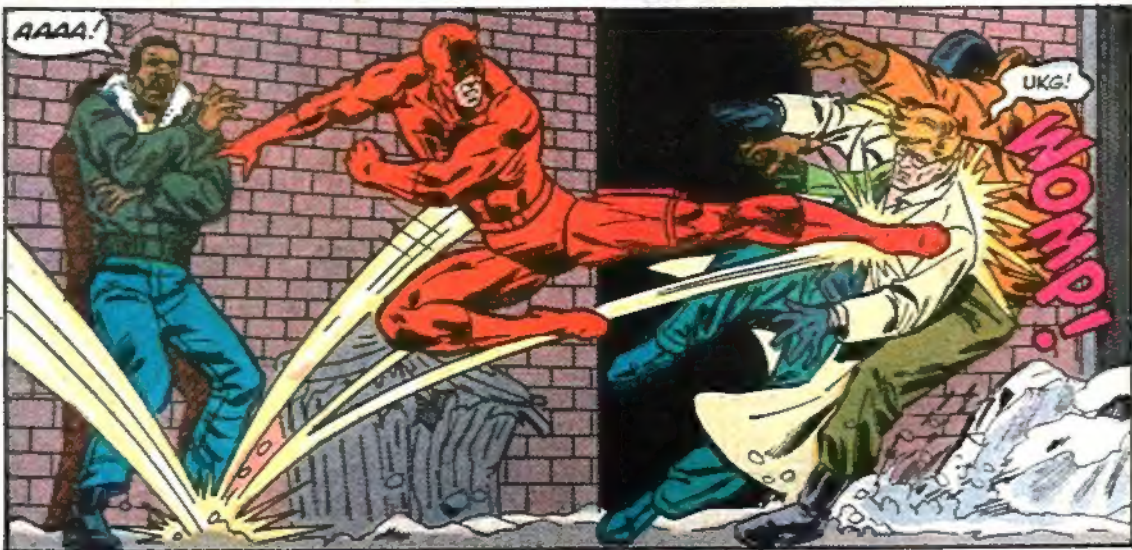
43RD AND 10TH, SIX BLOCKS AWAY.

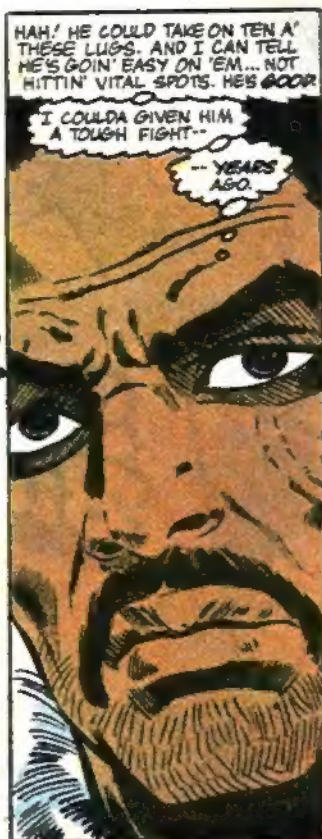
THE SCREAMING MAN IS LOSING BLOOD FAST.

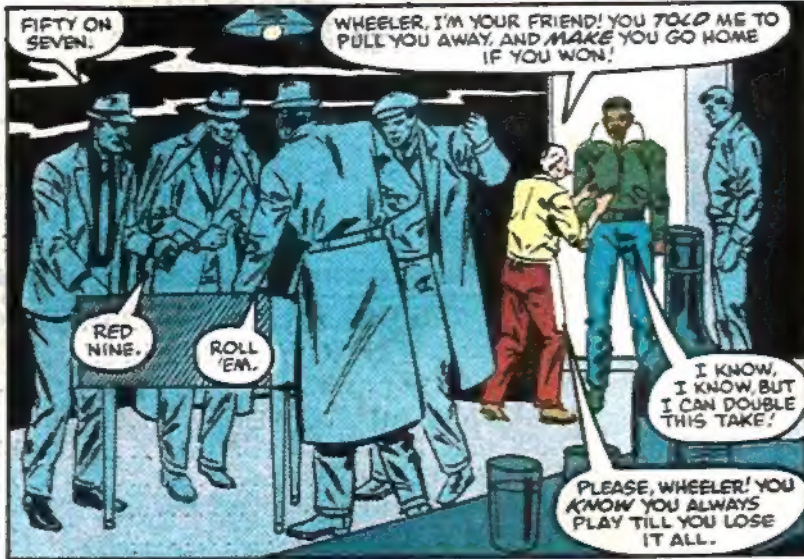


OTHER THREE HEARTBEATS POUNDING LIKE JACKHAMMERS.

SOMETHING BAD'S ABOUT TO GO DOWN.







SOON...



SO WHAT, I'VE BEEN AT ZERO BEFORE.

BLAST, WHY DIDN'T I STOP BETTING? CAN'T GO HOME NOW, CAN'T FACE THEM...MAYBE I SHOULD LEAVE TOWN, GIVE MY FAMILY A BREAK?

I HATE EVERYBODY IN NEW YORK. PEOPLE EITHER STINK OF UN-DESERVED SUCCESS--OR ELSE THEY'RE BUMS, AND THE BUMS REMIND ME OF MYSELF. EITHER WAY EVERYBODY STINKS.



TWO BITS. ENOUGH FOR A TENNIS BALL. OR AN EMPIRE. ONLY A GAMBLER CAN LOOK AT CHUMP CHANGE AND SEE THE POSSIBILITIES, CAN SEE TWO BITS MULTIPLY INTO AN EMPIRE.

IF ONLY I HAD A LITTLE MORE...



I COULD SELL THE SUIT. THAT DAREDEVIL REMINDED ME HOW NAIVE THAT WHOLE BUSINESS IS.

I SHOULD DUST OFF THAT OLD SUIT. COULD SELL IT FOR A FORTUNE ON THE BLACK MARKET. HAVEN'T EVEN LOOKED AT IT IN YEARS...



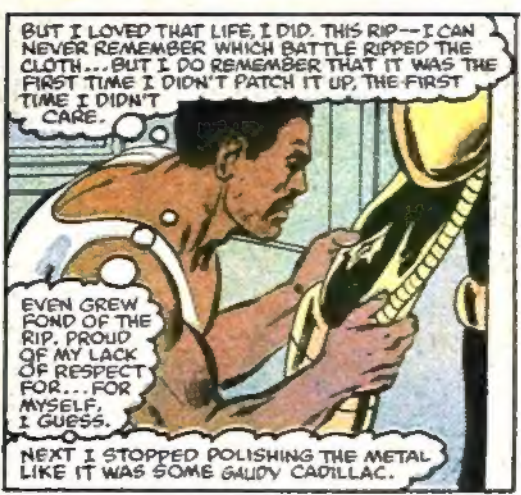
WHAT AN UGLY PIECE OF JUNK. JUNK I USED TO LOVE. I WAS SO PROUD OF IT. I MUST HAVE BEEN AN IDIOT BACK THEN.

SUPER HEROES JUST SEEM RIDICULOUS TO ME NOW. THEY GO TO ALL KINDS OF TROUBLE TO MAKE SUITS AND MASKS AND THEY HAVE SECRET IDENTITIES--

--BUT THOSE VERY OUTFITS ARE WHAT MAKE THEM STAND OUT! WE MIGHT AS WELL WEAR FLASHING LIGHTS AND SIRENS LIKE SOME OBSCENE CHRISTMAS TREE.



WHO DID WE THINK WE WERE FOOLING?

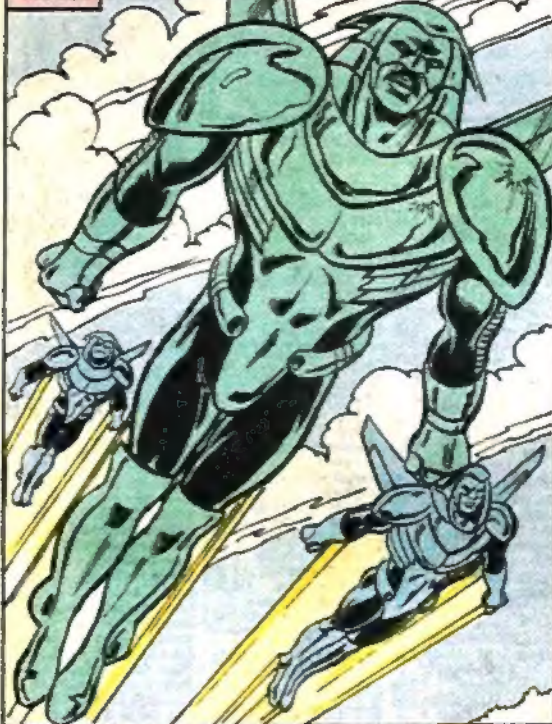


BUT I LOVED THAT LIFE, I DID. THIS RIP--I CAN NEVER REMEMBER WHICH BATTLE RIPPED THE CLOTH...BUT I DO REMEMBER THAT IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I DIDN'T PATCH IT UP, THE FIRST TIME I DIDN'T CARE.

EVEN GREW POND OF THE RIP. PROUD OF MY LACK OF RESPECT FOR...FOR MYSELF, I GUESS.

NEXT I STOPPED POLISHING THE METAL LIKE IT WAS SOME GAUDY CADILLAC.

"FANCY INDESTRUCTIBLE METAL FROM WAKANDAN TECHNOLOGY. WHAT A RICH LITTLE AFRICAN EMPIRE THAT WAS. I SURE GOT PAID WELL TO PROTECT THAT PLACE."



"I REMEMBER FLYING PATROL IN FORMATION, SO PROUD OF OUR PRECISION AND SKILL. WHAT DID THE PEOPLE ON THE GROUND THINK? WE MUST HAVE LOOKED LIKE A BUNCH OF IDIOT EXHIBITIONISTS."

"I SINGLE-HANDEDLY STOPPED ALMOST EVERY GUERRILLA UPRISING, BUCKED EVERY TERRORIST THREAT. I WAS FEARLESS. FEARLESS AS ONLY THE UTTERLY STUPID CAN BE."



"THE BLACK PANTHER OWNED THE WHOLE KINGDOM OF WAKANDA. SOME CALL HIM THE RICHEST MAN IN THE WORLD. T'CHALLA CALLED HIMSELF KING. I GUESS SOMEONE HAS TO BE KING, BUT LOOKING BACK ON IT HE WAS QUITE A POMPOUS GUY TO SAY IT OUT LOUD."



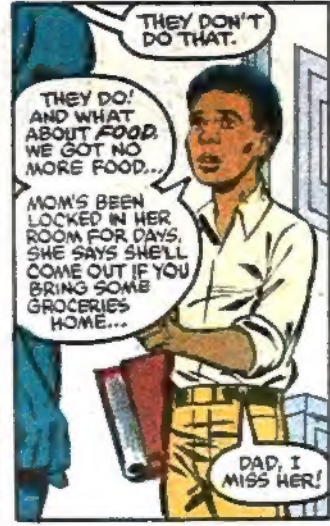
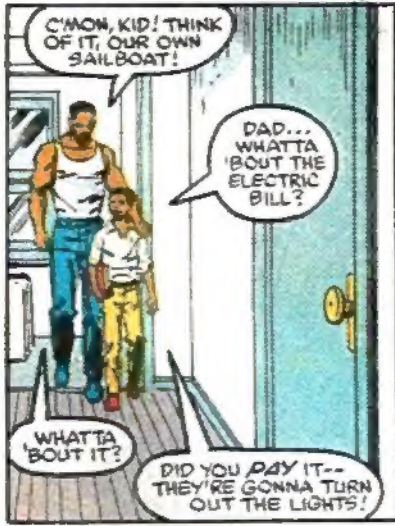
"HE WAS SO PROUD OF MY COURAGE IN BATTLE HE HEAPED HONORS ON ME. EVEN INTRODUCED ME TO HIS COUSIN, M'KONI... MARY. I MARRIED HER."

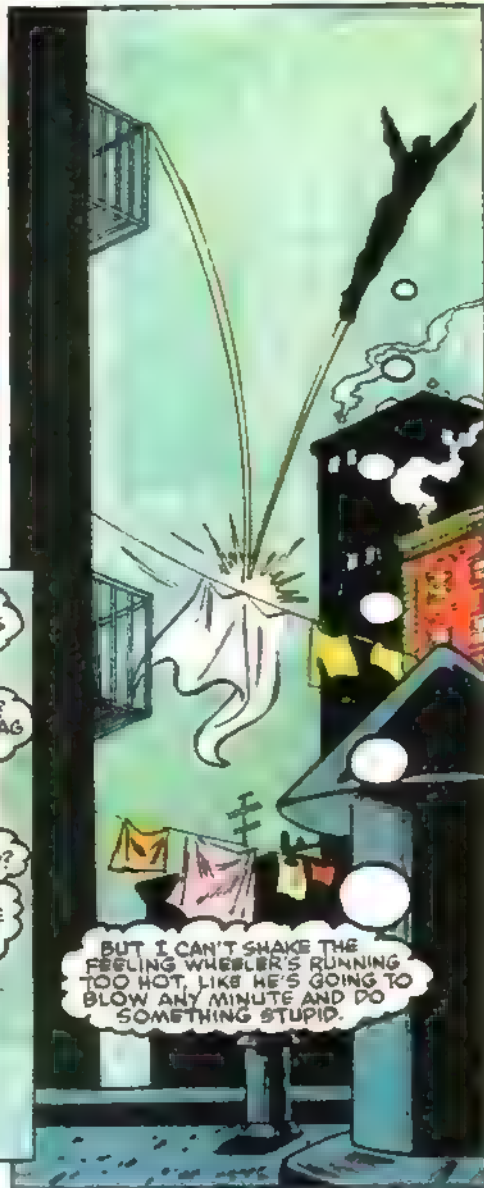
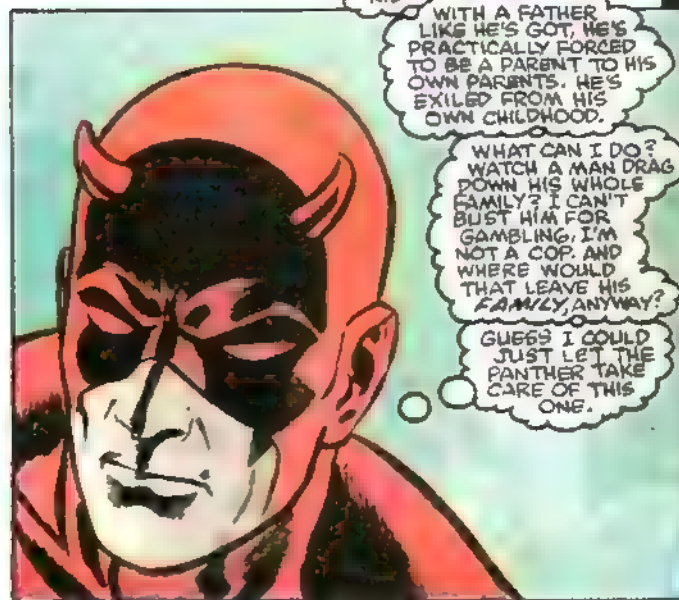
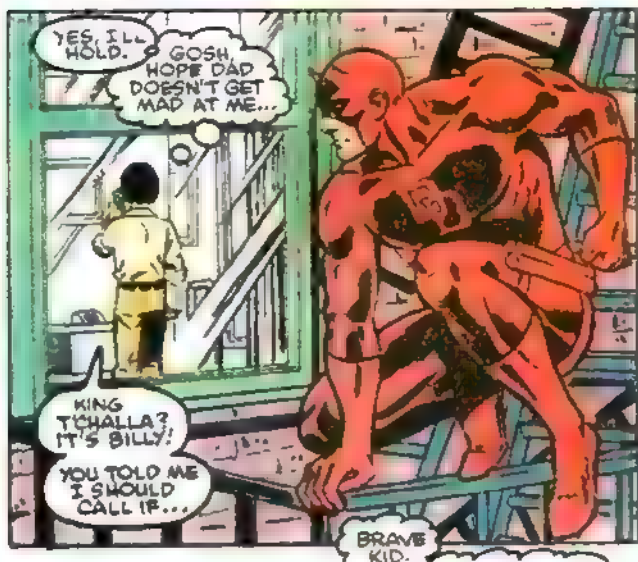
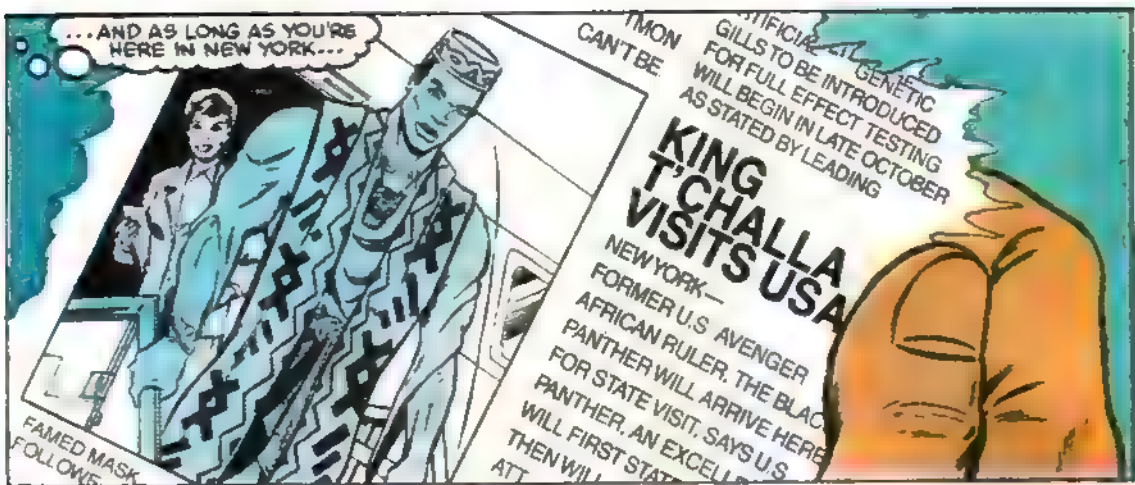


"WHY? WHAT WAS IT ALL BUILDING TO?"

THAT WAS ABOUT THE TIME THE SUIT GOT RIPPED. I LET IT GET DIRTIER AND DIRTIER. THEN WE MOVED TO NEW YORK, AND I HUNG IT UP TO COLLECT DUST FOREVER. GAMBLING SEEMED A "SAFER" WAY TO MAKE MONEY..."







ELSEWHERE:

GOOD HAND, WHEELER.

FIFTY WOULD COVER THE GROCERIES, BUT... I NEED SO MUCH MORE!

RIGHT THIS WAY, SIR.

I'M AMAZED, LATELY, YOUR MOVES HAVE BEEN WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE.

LOOKIT, WE'RE NICE GUYS. WE'LL LET YOU TAKE YOUR FIFTY AND RUN.

BE COOL, MAN. I AIN'T BEAT. I'LL DOUBLE THIS NEXT HAND.

WHEELER, WE'RE TRYIN' TO GIVE YOU A BREAK! YOU BEEN LOSIN' ALL WEEK!

HERE. THIS DOUBLES YOUR FIFTY. LET'S TAKE A WALK.

T'CHALLA!

YOU HUMILIATED ME IN THERE. I'M NOT ONE OF YOUR LOYAL SUBJECTS ANYMORE!

I'M CONCERNED ABOUT MARY. I WANT TO SEE HER WHILE I'M IN NEW YORK.

YOU CAN'T!

I MEAN... NOT FOR A DAY OR TWO, SHE'S BEEN... SICK.

WHEELER, MARY IS A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY OF T'CHAKA, SHE DESERVES THE BEST--

OR WHAT?! YOU'LL FIX THINGS WITH YOUR MONEY?

I KNOW YOU'RE THE RICHEST MAN IN THE WORLD! MONEY CAN FIX ANYTHING, RIGHT?

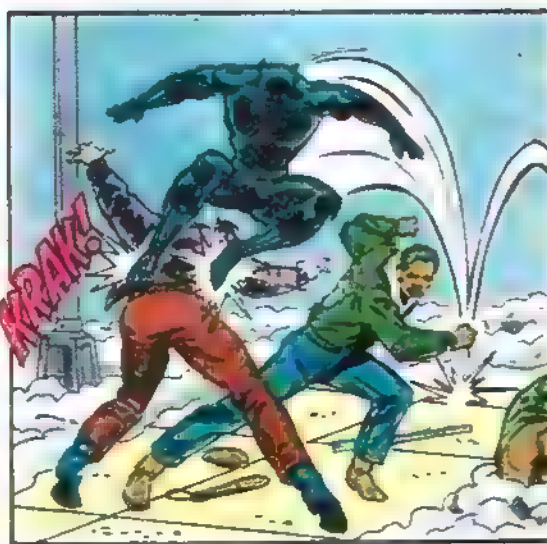
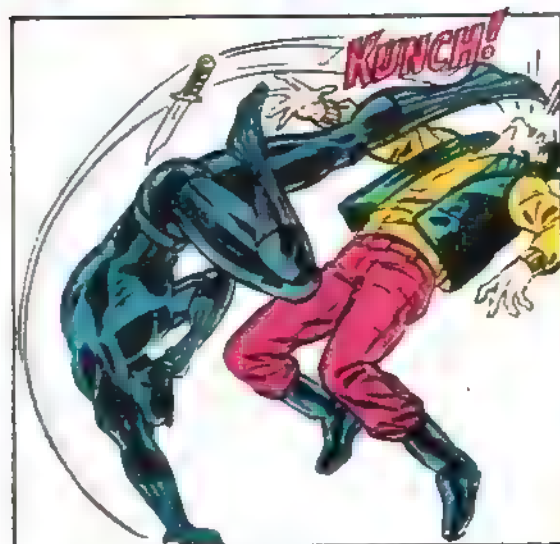
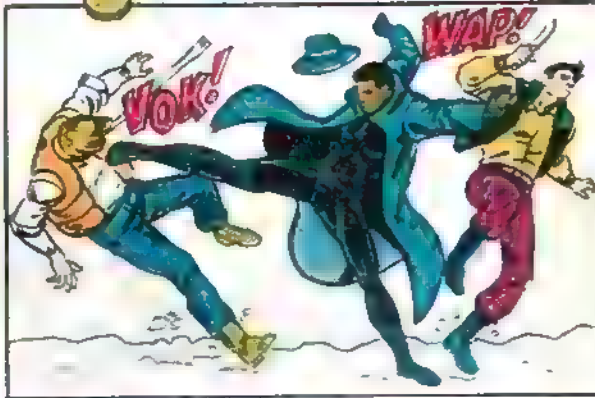
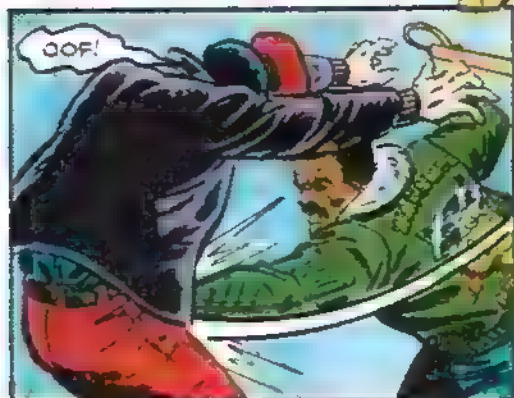
SO WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH YOUR LIFE? I SEE YOU IN THE NEWSPAPERS, YOU'RE JUST A FIGUREHEAD!

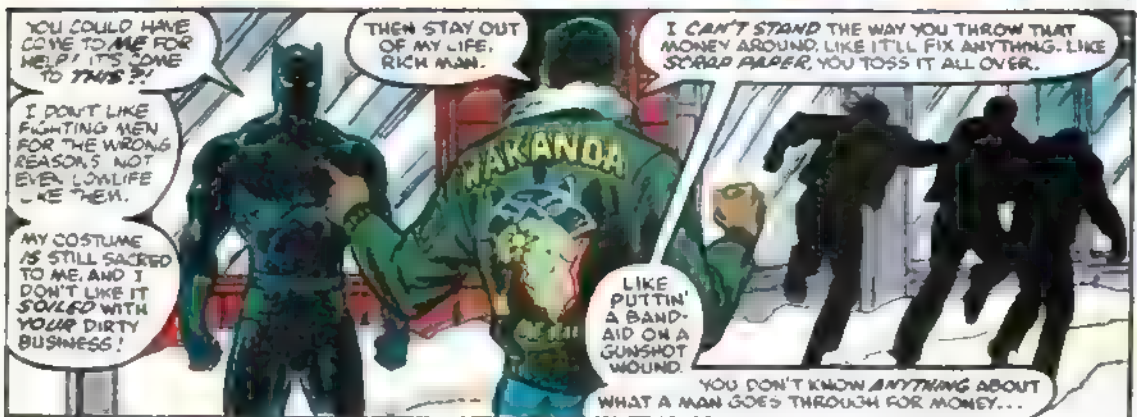
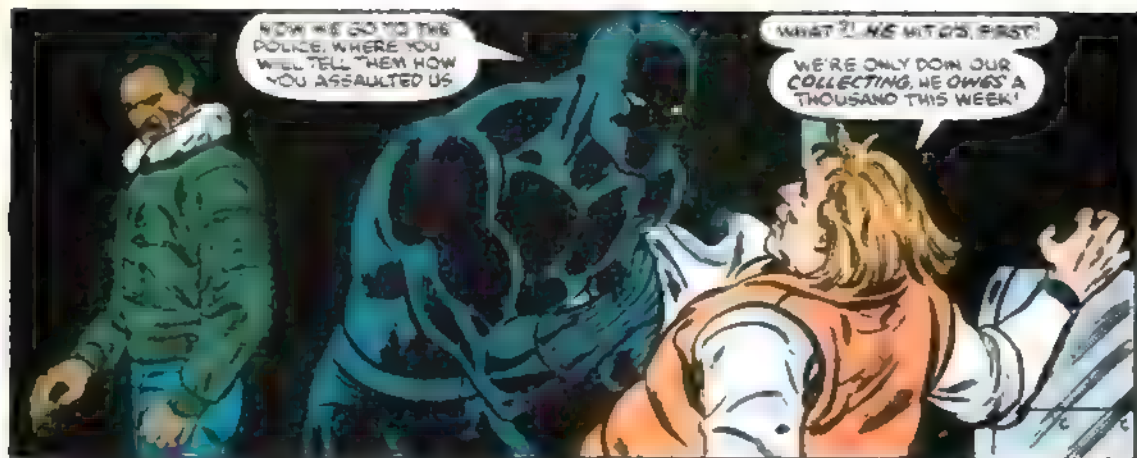
THE BLACK PANTHER USED TO MEAN SOMETHING! I CAN SEE WHAT'S UNDER YOUR COAT-- THAT COSTUME USED TO BE SACRED AND SACROSANCT! SOMETHING YOU WERE PROUD OF! NOW YOU HIDE IT--

-- BECAUSE YOU'RE JUST INTO BEING KING, YOU'VE MISER AS FAR AS I'VE FALLEN, T'CHALLA, BUT YOU'RE NO BETTER, SO DON'T GO CASTING ANY STONES MY WAY.

THIS IS PARANOID GIBBERISH. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

I'M SIMPLY HERE AS A FRIEND. AND ALL I SEE IS A MAN ON FIRE AND ABOUT TO TAKE HIS FAMILY DOWN WITH HIM--

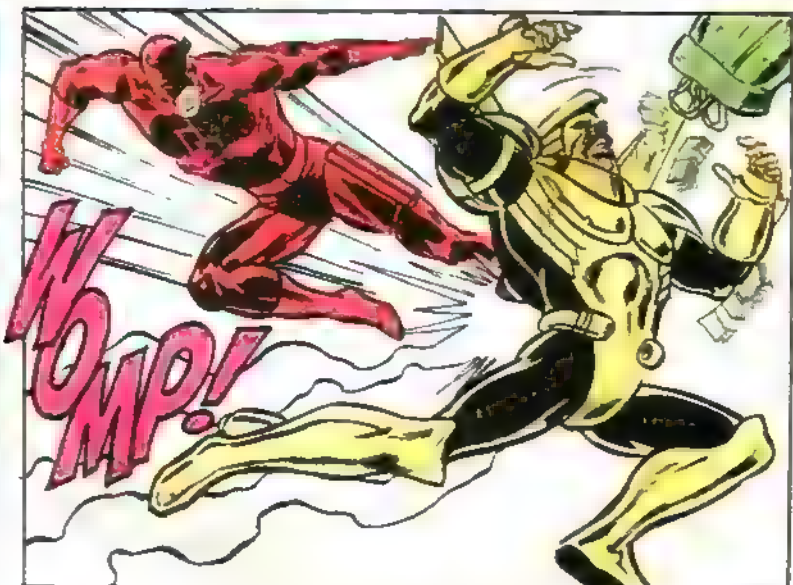
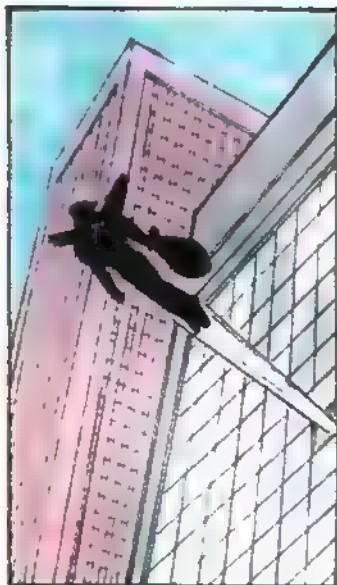
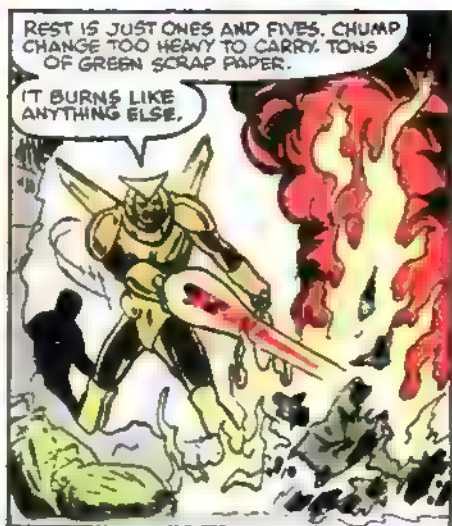
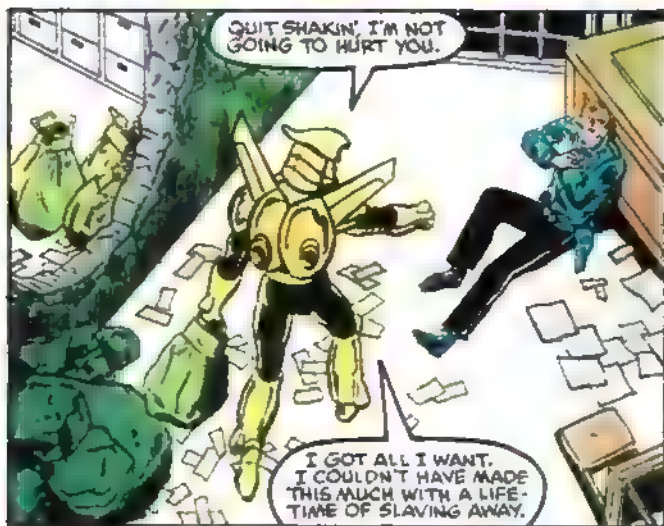
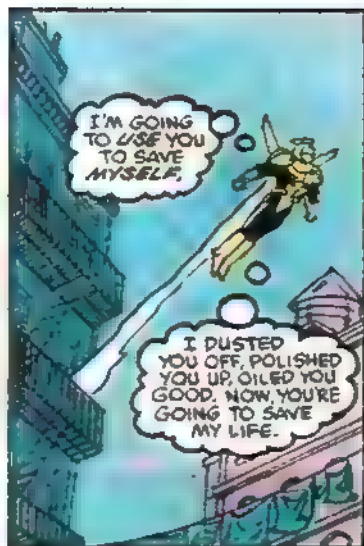
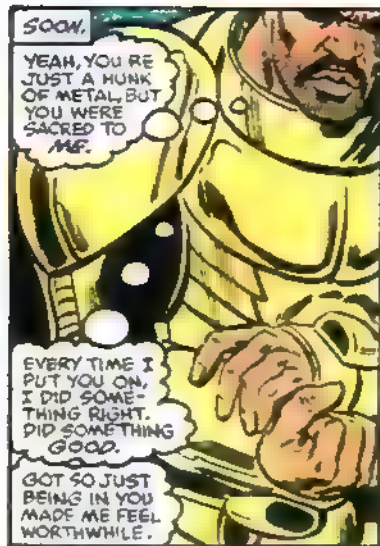


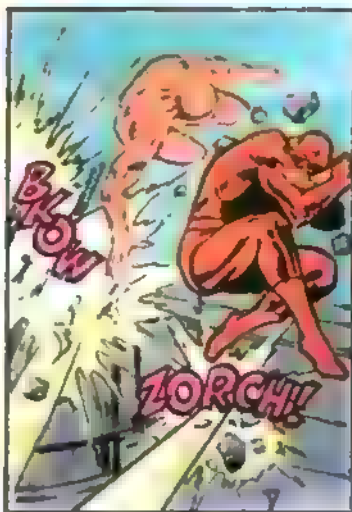
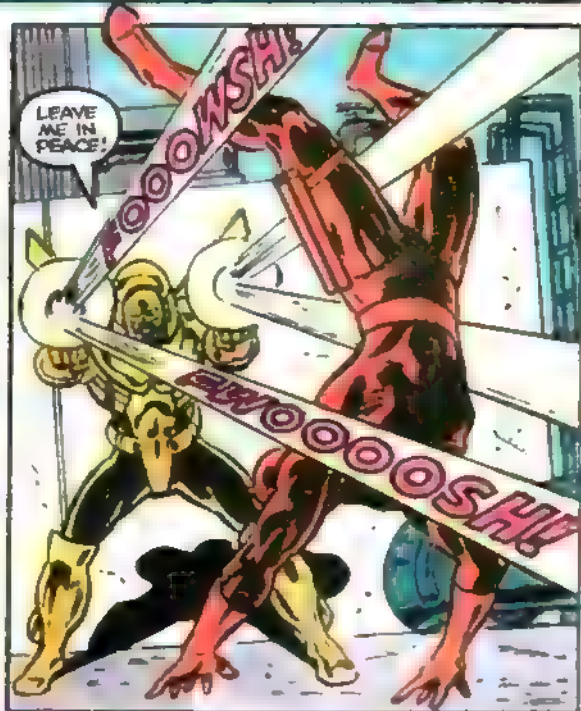
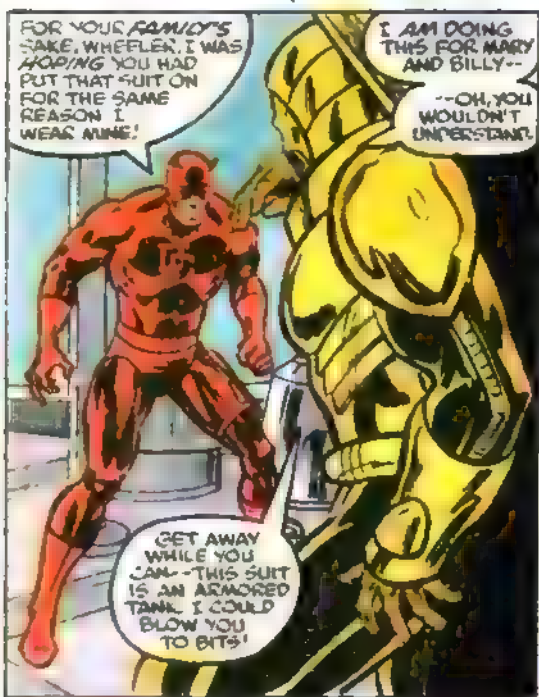
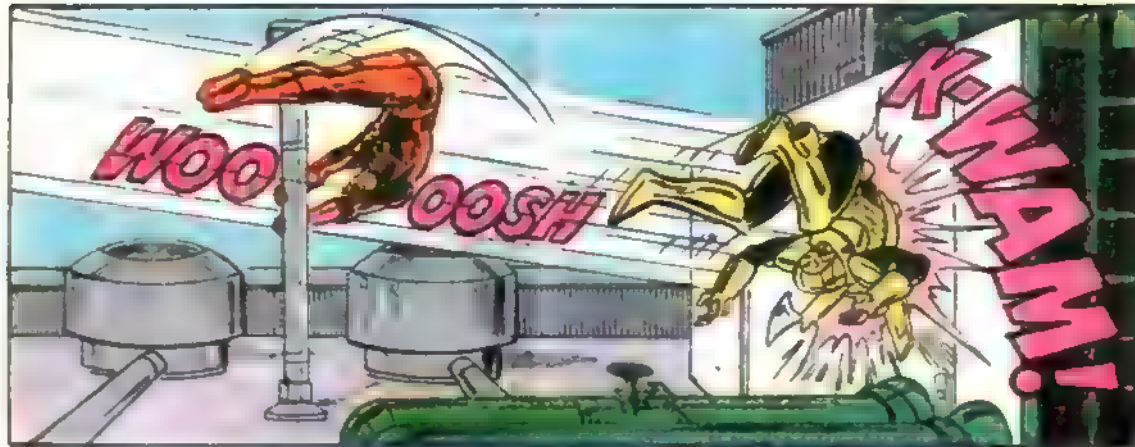


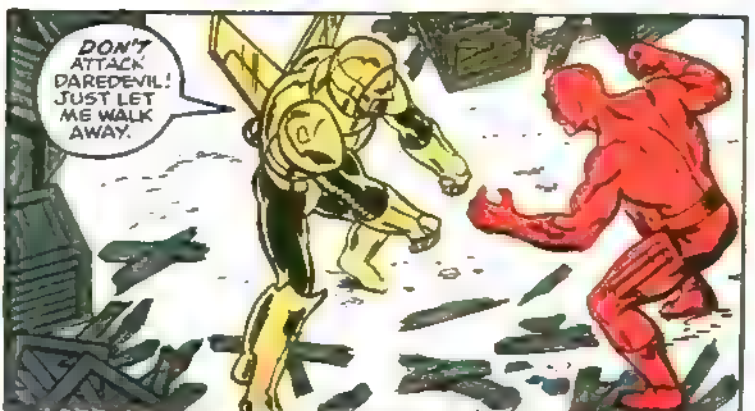
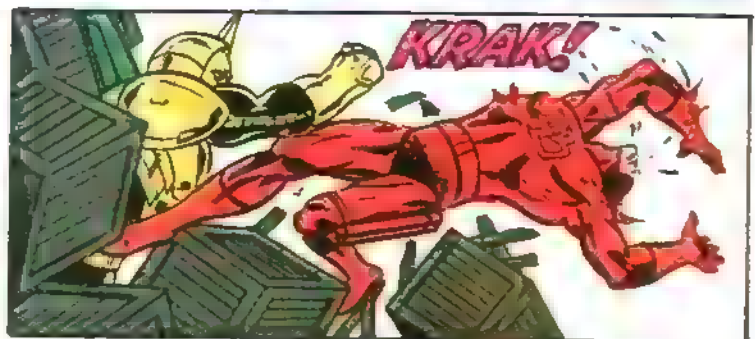
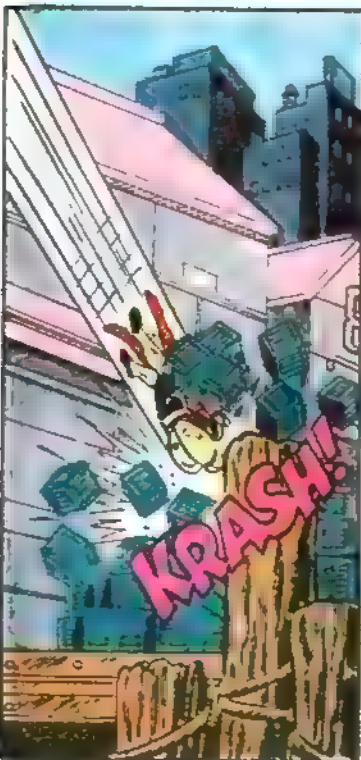
I WILL BE BY TOMORROW TO SEE MY COUSIN MARY. IF SHE IS UNHAPPY I SWEAR I WILL TAKE HER FROM YOU AND BRING HER BACK TO AFRICA WITH ME.

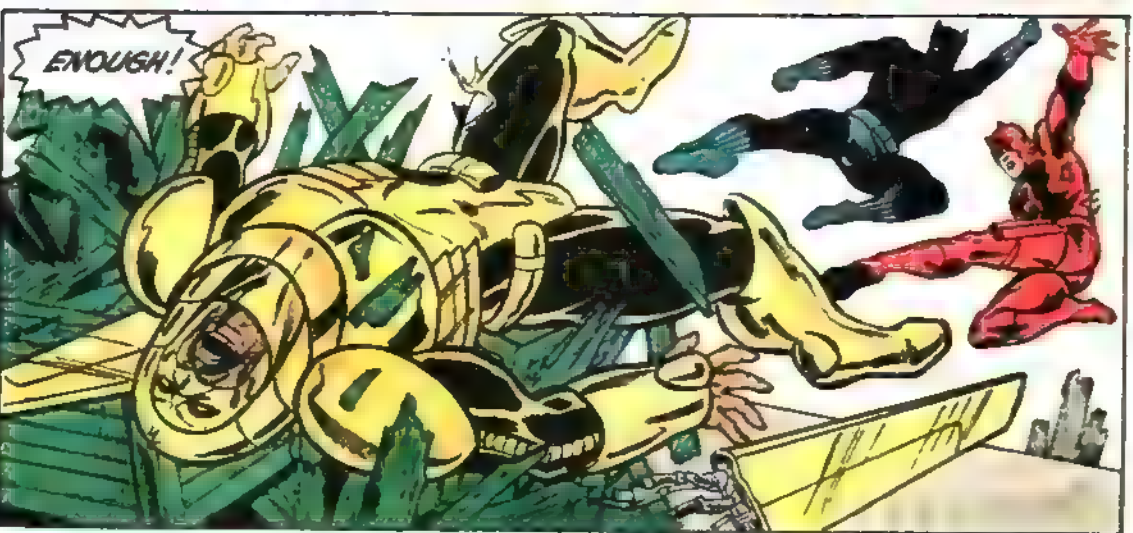
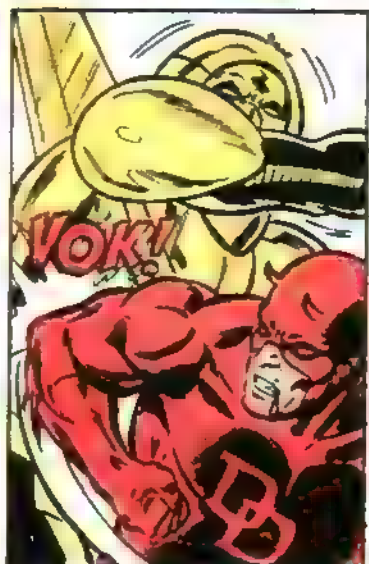
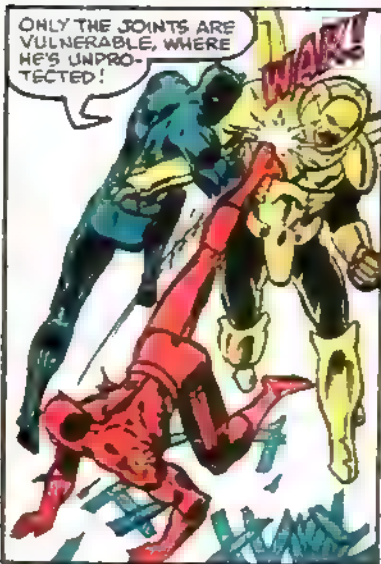
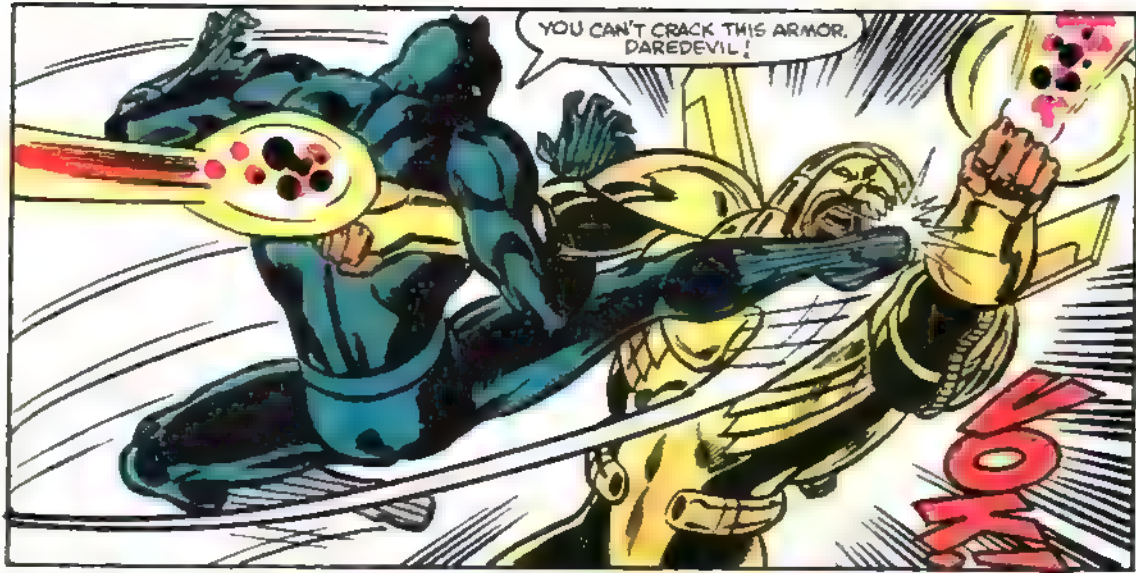
YOU CAN HAVE THIS FATE YOU'VE CHOSEN, WHEELER. THERE ARE EVEN WAYS TO BE HONORABLE ABOUT IT BUT YOU CANNOT BRING OTHERS DOWN WITH YOU!

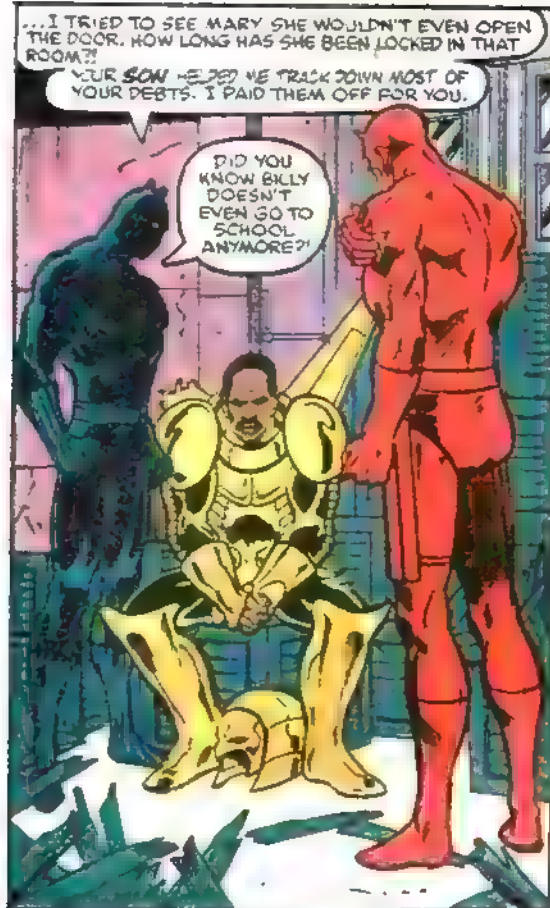












...I TRIED TO SEE MARY SHE WOULDN'T EVEN OPEN THE DOOR. HOW LONG HAS SHE BEEN LOCKED IN THAT ROOM?!

YOUR SON HELPED ME TRACK DOWN MOST OF YOUR DEBTS. I PAID THEM OFF FOR YOU.

DID YOU KNOW BILLY DOESN'T EVEN GO TO SCHOOL ANYMORE?!



YOU'VE GOT A CLEAN SLATE NOW, YOU CAN GET A JOB...

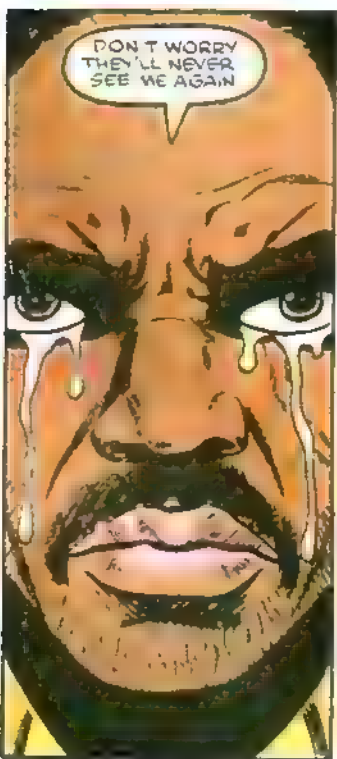
I CAN'T. I CAN'T STOP. I CAN'T GO BACK.

IT'S LIKE HAVING A FEVER THAT NEVER BREAKS. YOU'RE BURNING UP, YOU SWEAT IT OUT BUT THE FEVER NEVER BREAKS.

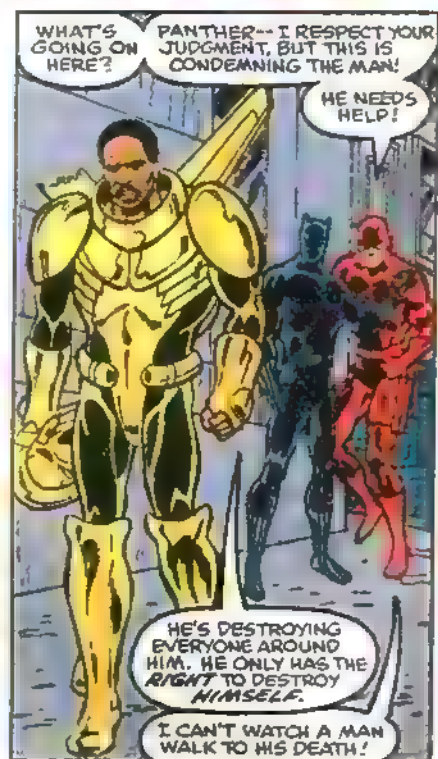
I HATE MYSELF I'D JUMP OUT OF MY OWN SKIN IF I COULD.



THEN GO. BUT DON'T GO HOME, DON'T SEE MARY, OR YOUR CHILD, EVER AGAIN.



DON'T WORRY THEY'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN.



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

PANTHER-- I RESPECT YOUR JUDGMENT, BUT THIS IS CONDEMNING THE MAN!

HE NEEDS HELP!

HE'S DESTROYING EVERYONE AROUND HIM. HE ONLY HAS THE RIGHT TO DESTROY HIMSELF.

I CAN'T WATCH A MAN WALK TO HIS DEATH!

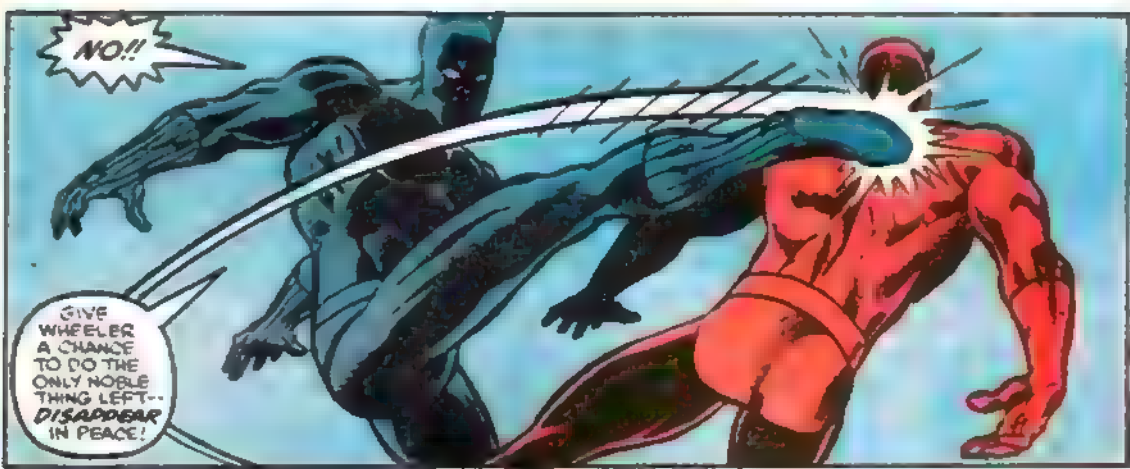


YOU CAN'T SAVE A MAN WHO DOESN'T WANT TO BE SAVED!

YOU'RE JUST LIKE WHEELER WAS IN AFRICA--ALWAYS TRYING TO SAVE PEOPLE WHETHER THEY LIKED IT OR NOT!

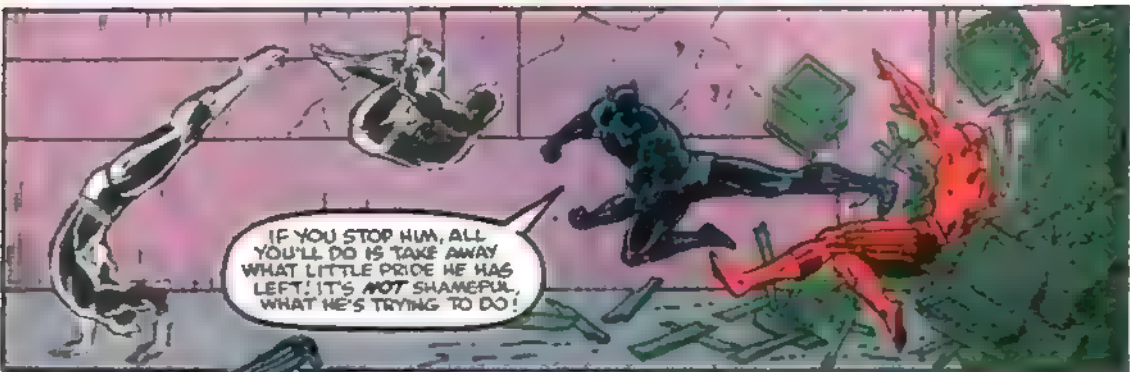
WE WENT FROM ONE OBSESSION TO THE NEXT--FROM COMPULSIVELY SAVING PEOPLE RIGHTSMACK INTO COMPULSIVE GAMBLING!

I'M GOING AFTER HIM!

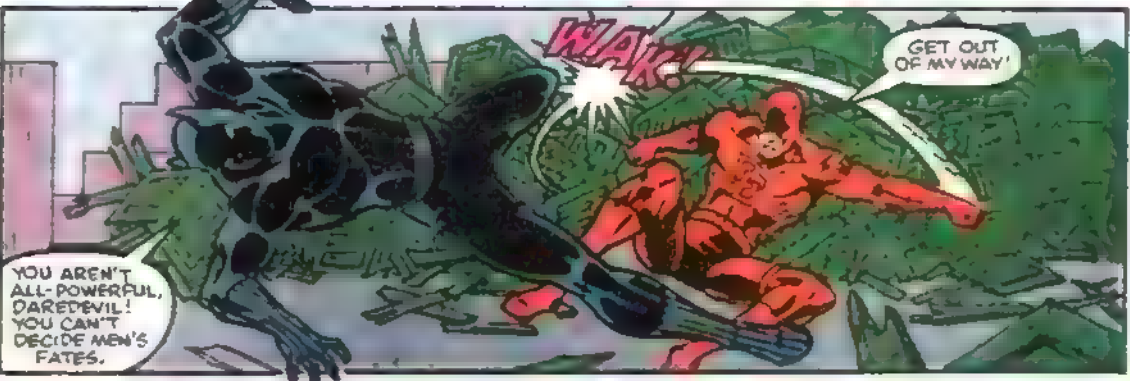


NO!!

GIVE WHEELER A CHANCE TO DO THE ONLY NOBLE THING LEFT--
DISAPPEAR IN PEACE!



IF YOU STOP HIM, ALL YOU'LL DO IS TAKE AWAY WHAT LITTLE PRIDE HE HAS LEFT! IT'S **NOT** SHAMEFUL, WHAT HE'S TRYING TO DO!



GET OUT OF MY WAY!

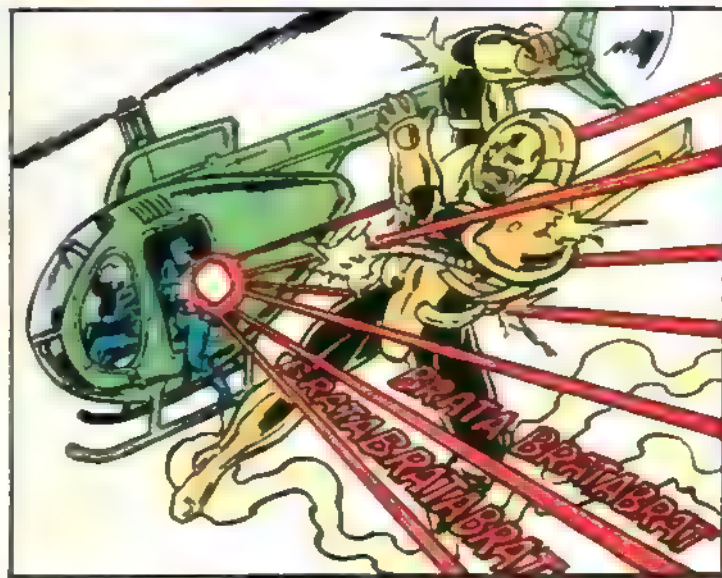
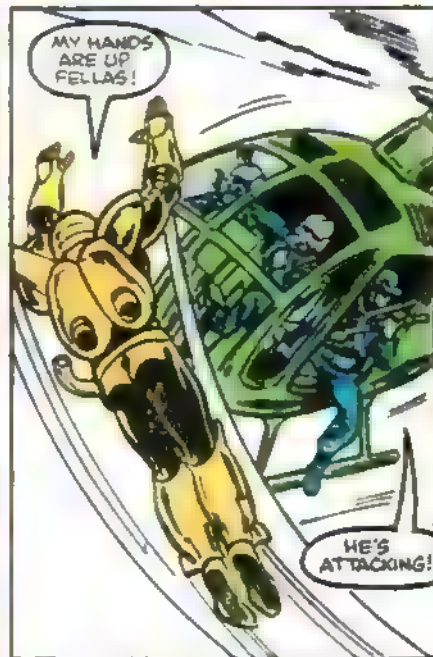
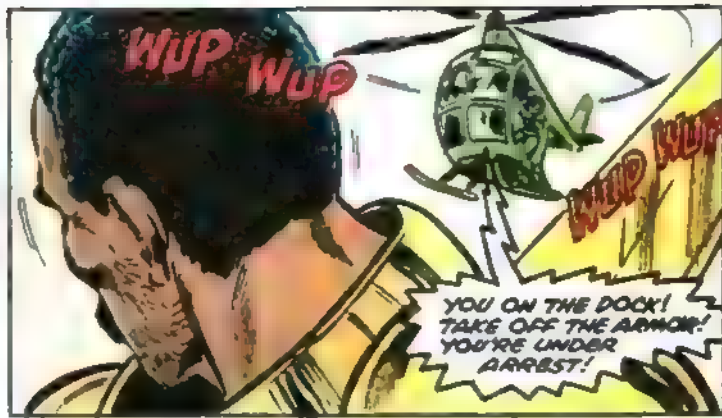
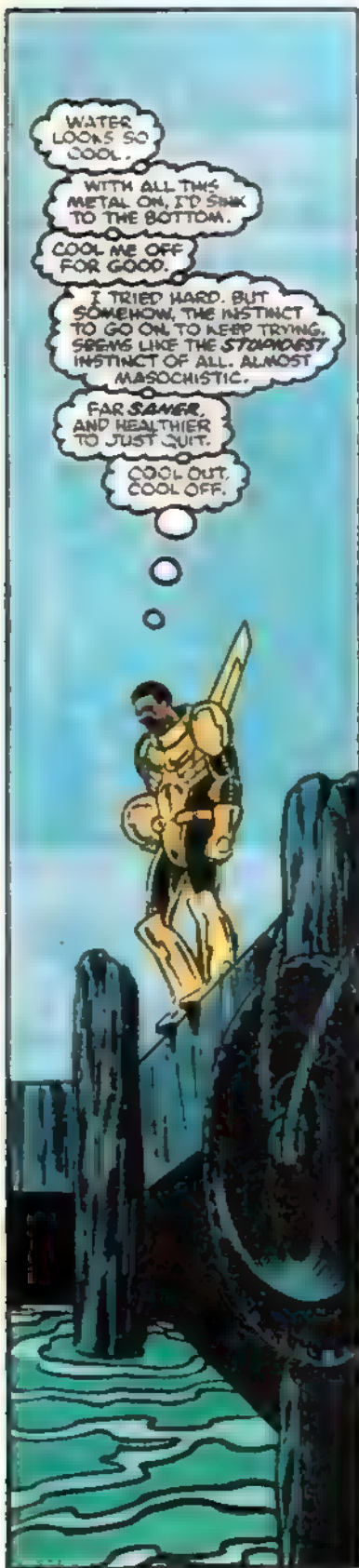
YOU AREN'T ALL-POWERFUL, DAREDEVIL! YOU CAN'T DECIDE MEN'S FATES.



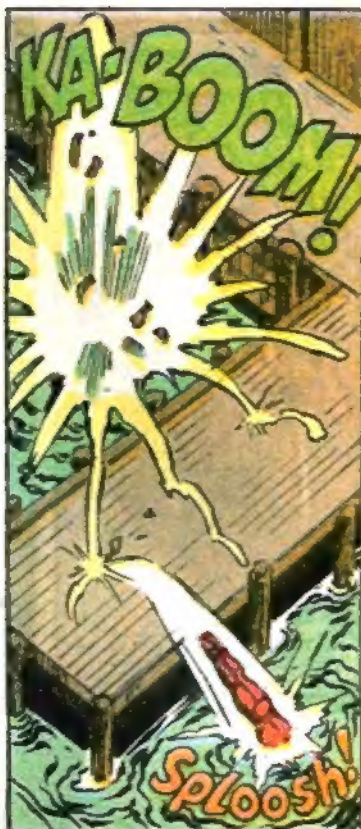
YOU CAN'T CHANGE ANY-THINGS.

DO IT FOR HIS FAMILY! THEY DON'T NEED HIM!

IF A MAN MUST DIE, LET HIM AT LEAST TAKE HIS HONOR WITH HIM. AMERICANS HAVE NEVER UNDERSTOOD THAT







LATER...

YOU'RE KIDDING, DAD!
ARE YOU TEASING ME?

NOPE. I REALLY DID IT. I GOT A JOB.
HERE, CATCH!

SOON, WE'LL GET YOU A TENNIS RACKET, THEN LESSONS!

WOW, THANKS!

COULDN'T BEAR TO LEAVE THIS HUNK OF METAL ON THE DOCK.

GOOD THING IT'S TOO BENT TO FIT OVER MY HEAD.

BUT I'LL POLISH IT AND DUST IT EVERY DAY. KEEP IT AS A TROPHY OF MY PAST.

THIS OLD RELIC WILL REMIND ME DAY IN AND DAY OUT WHERE A LIFE OF RISK LEADS A MAN.

NOWHERE BUT DOWN.

ONCE THE TRIALS OVER I'LL HAVE NOWHERE TO GO BUT UP.

MARY?

WE GOT FOOD IN THE KITCHEN, MARY...

ALL THE BILLS ARE PAID...

I'M OUT OF DEBT... I GOT A JOB... PLEASE, MARY...

I'M NOT GAMBLING ANYMORE...

COME ON IN, HONEY.

MARY?

I'M RIGHT HERE.

END

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Potentially per-
veying a plethora
of party, prattled
pictures to my peerless pal!

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